IC 75-1387

ORANDUM FOR:

NIO/USSR/EE

SUBJECT:

RONI

REFERENCE:

Your memo dated 3 March 1975,

to D/DCI/IC, subject: same

Dear John,

Your point is well taken. The problem you identify can probably best be overcome by closer consultation between PRD and the NIOs in the production of the RONI. This would be wholly consistent with the position taken in the USIB discussion of the RONI on 28 February that the NIOs, as the element of the community in closest touch with consumers, should have an opportunity to review the sections on the geographical and topical areas. We propose to proceed on this basis on future issues of the RONI.

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I agree with USIB that the NIOs should have a larger (consultative) role in the production of the RONI. Such consultation, among other things, will overcome the kind of problem has raised. But—the work of the NIOs, as major elements of the production community, are is a proper subjects for review in the RONI and will sconer or later inevitably be critiqued in the RONI, at least by inference. PRD will have to ensure that appropriate consultation with the NIOs does not inhibit its primary function of reviewing national intelligence.

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Acting C/PRD

3/5/75

I think we can walk this tightrope, but we should all be aware it exists.

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3 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lieutenant General Samuel Wilson

D/DCI/IC Staff

Dear Sam,

Last month your production review staff was making a quite valid point that the publications were not adequately analyzing the implications of _______ I responded that such an analysis was appearing on that very day in the PDB and that I thought we had done our duty in this way.

The appearance of the first RONI suggests to me a small and persistent problem. There are going to be quite a few occasions when, for a variety of reasons, important intelligence products do not come within the formal national purview, do not reach all USIB members, and sometimes do not even reach the IC Staff. This may lead your reviewers to identify blanks in the record from the production standpoint that are actually not blanks at all from the more important consumer standpoint.

One can define this problem away by saying that the IC Staff is reviewing National Intelligence, and then defining that in bureaucratic terms. If one did this, however, an important chunk of reality would still be missing. What to do?

> National Intelligence Officer for USSR/EE

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